THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, December 11, 1809.

On CRUELTY.

"PITY," says Johnson, "is not natural to man; children are cruel; savages are cruel; pity is acquired and improved by the cultivation of reason; we may have uneasy sensations from seeing a creature in distress, without pity; but we have not pity, unless we wish to relieve it. When I am on my way to dine with a friend, and, finding it late, have bid the coachman make haste; if I happen to attend when he whips his horses, I may feel unpleasantly that the animals are put to pain, but I do not wish him to desist; no, I bid him drive on."

If pity imply a wish to relieve, cruelty must imply a wish to torture; unfeelingness is not cruelty, though its effects be pain; savages may inflict pain from want of thought, but they are only cruel when they seek to torment, as they do their prisoners in war, and their enemies in peace. Dr. Johnson was cruel, if the anguish of the horses was present to his mind, and he wished the driver to inflict it; though the beasts would have suffered as much from the lash, had it never come into his mind; but then, like savages and children, he would not have been cruel, but thoughtless.

Pity is not acquired by the cultivation of reason, or the stoics would have been the most compassionate persons in the world. It is true they were never cruel, but they did not pity; nay, it was considered as a weakness, and would have excluded any disciple from their community. Reason taught them to endure, and to relieve, but not to feel. In the passions, not the

ratiocinative faculty, we find the seeds of pity, cruelty, and all other emotions; and as these are controuled, or indulged, man becomes a tyrant, or benefactor, to his species. Their total extinction (which was the professed aim of the stoic) prevented him no less from being injurious than social. He never would have commanded the coachman to drive on, if the animals were to be tormented by it; but neither would he have entered a carriage, or feasted with a friend. This sect, of which Epictetus was the glory, notwithstanding some of its extravagancies, was the best of its time; the stoics rejected the idea of fate, independent of events appointed by the councils of God; they zealously maintained the doctrine of a particular providence, the omnipotence of the Deity, and his attributes of justice and benevolence; they inculcated a tranquil submission to his will; and their principles of morality were more consonant to the purity of the Christian religion, than those of any other philosophers; their contempt of wealth, pomp, and pleasure; their indifference to pain, infamy, and death; their belief of the dignity of their nature, and their absolute power over the senses; inspired that elevation of sentiment, which constituted noble character, and afforded to succeeding ages a brilliant example of virtues without hope, and magnanimity without reward. The scriptures present to us the only system which comprises the excellence of all others, without their defects; fortitude without the obduracy of stoicism, morals without the pride of the academy, and humanity to the brute creation without the reveries of Pythagoras; nor is there a stronger argument for its divine nature, than that its perfect precepts tend no less to individual than universal happiness.

Sketch of the Life of Lieutenant-General Villettes.

(Concluded from Page 964.)

IN the year 1796, an intermittent fever, of a very bad kind, which is common in Corsica, obliged Colonel Villettes to resign the government of Bastia, and return to England; and the following year, Portugal being threatened by the French, he was sent to that country, and served in the army commanded by his friend Sir Charles Stuart, about a year and a half; when, the danger being, for the present, removed, the British troops were withdrawn, and Colonel Villettes came back to England, where he was promoted to the rank of a major-general, on the 13th of June, 1798. About this time General Villettes was appointed comptroller of the houshold of his royal highness the duke of Kent; and his royal highness continued

tinued to honour the general with his confidence as long as he lived.

In 1799 General Villettes was sent to Corfu; it being then in contemplation to raise a corps of Albanians for his Majesty's service. Of the inexpediency of this measure the general was soon convinced; and however advantageous the adopting it might have proved to himself, he strongly advised the contrary, and the plan was accordingly relinquished. The mutiny which some years afterwards took place at Malta among troops of a similar description, fully proved the justness of his opinion. When his presence was no longer necessary in Corfu, General Villettes was sent to Malta, where he acted for some time as second in command to General Pigot; and after his departure in 1801, as commander in chief of the forces, in which important situation he remained 'till the year 1807. Those persons who recollect the stipulations concerning Malta in the treaty of Amiens, the discussions which arose during the peace in consequence of those stipulations, and the value attached to this island by all parties since the renewal of hostilities; and who, at the same time consider the situation of Malta, with respect to Naples, Sicily, Egypt, and indeed the whole of the Mediterranean and the Levant, will readily conceive that there were few situations, in which a firm, temperate, and judicious conduct would be more requisite than in the commander of the forces in that island. It may safely be asserted, that few men were superior to General Villettes in the qualities from which such a conduct originates. His judgment was so good, that, though he seldom stood in need of advice, yet, on every proper occasion, he was ready to listen to it; to adopt it with candour, if he judged it to be right; or to adhere to his own opinion, if he saw no just grounds for abandoning it. His firmness in pursuing the line of conduct, which he thought it his duty to adopt, was equally remarkable; and to these qualities were united a temper the least irritable, and manners the most conciliatory, that can be well imagined. The favourite maxim of "*Suaviter in modo, fortiter in re,*" has perhaps seldom been more perfectly exemplified. Many instances occurred during his command in Malta, in which these qualities were exerted, and executed with the very best effects. When Tomasi, the French-elected grand master, laid claim to the island; when a French agent sought an occasion of quarrel, and endeavoured to raise a disturbance in the theatre, as had been done successfully at Rome, Naples, and elsewhere; when a most alarming mutiny took place among the foreign troops in Fort Ricosoli; on all these, and on many other occasions, the firm, temperate, and judicious conduct of General Villettes was successfully employed.

In the year 1807, the personal and professional merit of this officer; his perfect knowledge of most of the European languages, and his long acquaintance with the military system of the continental powers, pointed him out to his majesty's government as a proper person to command the foreign troops who were to form a part of the army intended to be sent to the Baltic, under Lord Cathcart. General Villettes was accordingly re-called from Malta; but, though he obeyed the summons with the utmost promptitude, it was found impossible for him to arrive in England in time to take any share in the northern expedition. That expedition was accordingly dispatched under other commanders, and General Villettes was, soon after his arrival, appointed to a situation still more honourable, but eventually fatal to him.

It was in the month of September, 1807, that this officer, now a lieutenant-general, returned to England, a country in which he had passed so small a portion of his life, as to be much less known in it than his worth deserved. He was soon after appointed colonel of the 64th regiment of infantry; and his talents were not suffered to remain long unemployed. A proper person was wanted to be commander of the forces, and lieutenant-governor of Jamaica. Many circumstances in the situation of that island rendered it necessary to be particularly careful in the appointment of a general officer suited to that important trust. General Villettes was selected for this purpose; and it would, perhaps, have been difficult to have found a man more capable of fulfilling the duties of the station to the satisfaction of government, and for the benefit of the colony. He was accordingly appointed lieutenant-governor and commander of the forces in Jamaica, with the rank of a general in that island, in the latter end of the year 1807. Highly honourable as this appointment was, General Villettes would willingly have declined it. His constitution, which was never very strong, had been much impaired by bilious complaints; and having been absent from England during almost the whole of the last fourteen years, he would gladly have remained some time in this country. The last day before he embarked at Spithead, was spent at the house of the earliest friend of his youth, to whom, in confidential conversation, he expressed his belief that the climate of Jamaica would not agree with him; "but," he added, "I would not object to going there on that account; for if I were ordered to march up to a battery, I should do it, though I might be of opinion that I should be killed before my troops could carry it; and, in like manner, I think I ought not to hesitate as to going to Jamaica, if his majesty's service requires it, though I may be of opinion that I shall fall a victim to the climate."

But

But little is known in England of what happened in Jamaica during the short period that General Villettes lived after his arrival in that island. It is, however, well known, that his amiable disposition, and that firm, but conciliatory conduct, which always formed so remarkable a part of his character, soon engaged the confidence and esteem of the whole community. In the month of July, 1808, he undertook a military tour of inspection through the island. Neither the bad state of his health, nor the unfavourable weather, could induce him to postpone doing what he considered to be his duty.

General Villettes left Kingston on the 3d of July, and proceeded as far as Port Antonia, where he inspected some of the troops. He set out from thence on the 11th, to go to Buff Bay, in the parish of St. George, to inspect a battalion of the 60th, which was stationed there; but in this journey he was seized with a fever, which, on the third day, put a period to his life. He died on the 13th of July, at Mrs. Brown's estate, named Union; retaining in his last moments the same serenity of mind for which his whole life had been so remarkably distinguished.

The regret expressed on this occasion by all descriptions of persons in Jamaica, far exceeded what could have been supposed possible, when the short period that General Villettes had resided among them is taken into consideration. His body was interred near Kingston, in the parish of Half-Way-Tree, in which he resided. The funeral was attended by the duke of Manchester (the governor of the island), as chief mourner, and was conducted with all the military honours so justly due to the rank and merit of the deceased. Few men have possessed, in a degree superior to General Villettes, the talent of acquiring the good will of almost all, the ill will of scarcely any, who knew him. The chief reason was, that he felt good will towards all, and his conduct was suitable to his feelings. His friendship, though by no means restricted to a few, was far from being indiscriminate; but any person who once really enjoyed it, was sure that it would never be withdrawn. On the application of three friends of the late Lieutenant-General Villettes, the dean and chapter of Westminster have consented that a monument should be placed to the memory of that much lamented officer, near the monument of his late friend the Hon. Sir C. Stuart. Mr. Westmacott is employed as the sculptor; and the following inscription is to be engraved on the marble:

"Sacred to the memory of
Lieutenant-General WILLIAM ANNE VILLETTES,
(second son of Arthur Villettes, Esq. his majesty's minister plenipotentiary at the court of Turin, and to the Helvetic Cantons,)

tons,) who, during a period of thirty-three years, rendered essential service to his country, at Toulon, in Corsica, at Malta, and in many other places. In consideration of these services, he was appointed colonel of the 64th regiment of infantry, and lieutenant-governor and commander of the forces in Jamaica; but, while engaged in a tour of military inspection in that island, he was seized with a fever, and died near Port Antonio, on the 13th of July, 1808, aged 54 years. A worthy member of society was thus taken from the public; a valuable officer was lost to the king's service; and the island of Jamaica was deprived of a man well calculated to promote its happiness and prosperity. His residence there was indeed short; yet his manly but mild virtues, his dignified but affable deportment, and his firm but conciliating conduct, had secured him the confidence and esteem of the whole community.

"The sculptur'd marble shall dissolve in dust,
And fame, and wealth, and honours pass away;
Not such the triumphs of the good and just,
Not such the glories of eternal day."

DECEMBER FASHIONS.

(From Ackermann's Repository of Arts, &c.)

Fashions for Ladies.

A TYROLESE WALKING DRESS.

A Fine cambric or jaconot muslin round robe, with long plaited sleeves, and worked antique front; bordered at the feet with needle work or appliqued lace. Elastic belt, confined behind with a bow and ends of ribbon. A plain shirt, with high collar, sitting close to the throat, and trimmed at the extreme edge with a plaiting of French net. A rosary and cross of blended gold and amber. A Tyrolese coat of shaded green, or drake's-neck velvet, lined throughout with amber sarsnet, and trimmed with gold or Chinese floss binding. The Amazonian helmet, composed of the same materials, ornamented with a patriotic band and bow, towards one side; a curled ostrich feather, tipped with gold, on the other. Slippers of amber velvet, with black bindings and rosettes. Gloves of York tan.

EVENING DRESS.

A white satin round robe, with demi-traine. A short sleeve of interjoined lace and gold beading. A military front, composed

posed of gold cord and frogs. A palerine of white satin, with full collar, and border of swansdown, and a rich cord and tassel of gold. A Grecian coif, of white satin, with appliqued border of lace, and band of crescent of pearls. A long sleeve, of French lace; or a long glove, of French kid; with bracelets and necklace of pearls. Crimson slippers, with gold imperial trimming. Ivory fan, with mount of crimson crape, ornamented with a border of gold jessamine.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

I must congratulate my fair readers on the dawn of a better taste, as it regards winter fashions. I observe, with pleasure, that crimson, purple, dark green, and brown, are likely to become the prevailing colours, with borders of black, gold, or ermine; and that scarlet, that terrible destroyer of female beauty, grace, and elegance, is consigned, I hope for ever, " to the tomb of all the Capulets."

Though an enemy to the common plan of drawing the names of fashions from every popular occurrence, I cannot help strenuously recommending to my readers the dress formed upon the Tyrolese costume. It is agreeable in itself, and will become peculiarly interesting, if it be considered as the badge of sympathy between the British fair and the hardy inhabitants of the Tyrolean mountains. A brave nation, united by love, and struggling for independence, is a grand spectacle on the theatre of the world; and whatever be the fate of these oppressed people, their exertions deserve applause; their sufferings sympathy; and their cause, eternal remembrance.

(From " La Belle Assemblee.")

For the out-door costume, mantles and pelisses are a mode of dress yet unrivalled. They are often constructed of rich double twilled sarsnet, or velvet; but Merino cloth holds a decided pre-eminence. The favourite colour royal or bishop's purple, lined with white or marigold sarsnet; they are made to sit tight to the figure, wrapping over the bosom, and buttoning down on the right side, with small raising silk-buttons, confined to the waist, (which is long) by a band and buckle. To give breadth over the bosom and back (now considered indispensable), the arm-hole is cut so small as nearly to exclude the cap of the shoulder; and to increase this effect, is placed a half-sleeve (very shallow) over the long sleeve, trimmed the same as the pelisse. Figured bindings of velvet, in a wave pattern, are most in esteem. Gold is becoming rather too general. Embroidered borderings in chenille are chiefly confined to dress, or, at most, are only seen in carriages; but

many of our elegant belles disclaim coloured edgings altogether. Mantles are made longer and wider than last month; they have full collars, confined at the throat with long bows and ends of corded ribband, finished with tassels, left plain in the back, and plaited full on the shoulders, to admit of their folding over the arms and bosom. The hoods have also increased in dimensions, and now serve as a temporary defence against the night air, or sudden currents of wind.

French coats, in scarlet, Spanish green, purple, or brown cloth, with high full collars, brooched at the throat, falling in the style of a robe, but confined to the waist behind by a silk cord or tassel, brought round to tie before; the edges wrought in shaded, olive brown chenille, or relieved with swansdown; worn over a high dress of the same materials, are an elegant and graceful walking dress.

The long swansdown tippet has entirely taken place among our fashionables of the spotted ermine palerines; we have observed, likewise, a few white muffs.

In full dress, caps of white satin, ornamented with ostrich feathers, or turbans of silver or gold tissue, with rich embroidered hankerchiefs, are most in esteem.

We have noticed several new devices in jewellery: harlequins, peacocks, tulips, and butterflies, in appropriate coloured gems, have a pleasingly novel effect.

The Grecian sandal, in the form of a half-boot, cut out on each side the lace holes, displaying the stocking, made of white kid, bound, laced, and embroidered in silver, is a very graceful ornament for the foot and ancle. White figured silk shoes, colashed with purple satin, embroidered in silver, are of the newest invention.

The prevailing colours for the season are orange, marigold, scarlet, aurora, cinnamon, bishop's purple, and amber.

Extraordinary Escape of an English Prisoner from France.

THE following interesting narrative of the hair-breadth 'scapes of a young man, a native of Leeds, as communicated in a letter to his brother, will, we think, be acceptable to our readers:

DEAR BROTHER, *Malta, May* 28, 1809.

No doubt you will be astonished to hear from me at this place, when you naturally suppose that I am confined still in a French prison; here I am, however, and the particulars I will state of my escape from France. Finding there was no probability of an exchange, and seeing that I was losing my time in idleness, I was determined to venture, at all hazards, to

make my escape, though I witnessed every day so many examples of young men being retaken and loaden with irons; I was not still deterred from attempting. On the 13th of March, 1808, I threw up my parole and entered into prison with the seamen; having every thing ready, at twelve o'clock at night, I descended the ramparts, and travelled through fields, woods, and high roads, always going round the towns and villages, travelling by night, and resting in the woods by day, only entering into a farm-house to purchase bread. In this way I travelled for thirty-eight nights, without ever sleeping in a bed; and there being always a guard upon the bridges, I was obliged to swim across the rivers. At length I reached Marseilles, having travelled upwards of two hundred and sixty leagues, and during chief part of the time had continual snow and rain. When just on the point of getting into a boat, I was unfortunately retaken by the custom-house officers. Still, having hopes of getting clear, I would not give myself up for a prisoner of war. I was in consequence treated as a spy, and under this opinion I was put into a dungeon too small for me to stand upright, and not sufficiently long to lie down at full length. Here I was almost eaten up with vermin, of which there is no scarcity in France. In that place I remained near three months, living upon bread and water.

Finding I could not get clear, I came to a determination to give myself up as a prisoner of war. This was out of the frying-pan into the fire; they immediately put irons upon me, and marched me, by day, through the country which I had travelled, by night, a few months before. In two months I reached Bitche, the strongest fort they have in the country, and was condemned to remain there during the war, with several of my unfortunate countrymen. I was then upwards of forty feet under ground, but allowed two or three hours a-day, to walk on the fortress, surrounded with soldiers; finding myself not the happiest mortal on earth, I was determined once more to try my luck.

With this resolution, my fellow prisoners and myself made a party amongst us, and after a great deal of trouble, cutting and breaking every obstacle that lay before us, at length we found ourselves in the open air; still having the centinels to pass, and a rampart of one hundred feet to descend, having previously made a rope of linen, which had been bought for shirts, we were at last so fortunate as to get tolerably safe down, only cutting our hands a little, the rope being too small. This happened on the 8th of December last! it was then snowing and freezing in a most dreadful manner. Still, marching on as before, by night, until the 25th, your birth-day, myself and four companions were surrounded by the gend-arms, a set of fellows then employed to take up deserters. We

were once more ironed, and marched from whence we came, upwards of 160 leagues.

On our arrival, we were put into a dungeon with nine inches water, a little straw, and fifty feet under ground; not able to stand or lie during our confinement. Our case being desperate, we came to the determination to lose our lives or get clear, as it was impossible to live in such a place more than a few days. Having found means of procuring saws, hammers, and chisels, we set to work once more, and on the 8th of February, at two o'clock in the morning, I found myself once more in the open fields, having come to a resolution to lose my life rather than be taken, as it only would make a few days difference. I pursued my journey, undismayed, through both the French and Austrian armies. My sufferings in this escape were as severe as formerly; still I had to bear up against snow and rain, cold and hunger; but at length, on the 16th of March, I found myself in perfect safety at Trieste. Had you seen me that day, you would have thought me perfectly mad; I think myself so at present, or at least every body tells me so. On my arrival at Trieste, there being no men of war, I was obliged to take a passage in an imperial vessel; and, on my arrival here, the admiral, hearing from others who had come with me what I had suffered, had the goodness to appoint me acting lieutenant to the Sabrina, which I shall join in the morning.

Your affectionate brother.

BENEFIT SOCIETIES.

AN act having passed in the last session of parliament to amend an act made in the 33d year of his present majesty for the encouragement and relief of friendly societies, we shall, we apprehend, render an acceptable service to these numerous and useful institutions, by giving the following correct abstract of the act in question: The first section provides, that if a member of any benefit society shall offend against any of the rules, it shall be lawful for two justices of the peace within the division where such society shall be held, upon complaint made on oath by any member of such society, to summons the person against whom the complaint is made, and to hear and determine the complaint according to the rules, &c. and in case the said justices shall adjudge any sum to be paid by the person against whom the complaint is made, the money must be paid accordingly, or in default thereof, it is now lawful to levy the same by distress and sale of his goods. The second clause provides, that societies established before the year 1796, shall be allowed to file their rules at the quarter sessions of the peace,

peace, notwithstanding they may have omitted to do so within the time limited. By the third clause it is enacted, that if complaint shall be made to two justices of the peace, by any member of such societies, of relief having been refused to him, to which he shall be lawfully entitled, according to the rules, it shall be lawful for the justices to summon the person, being an officer of the society, against whom such complaint shall be made, and award such sum of money to be forthwith paid to the said complainant as shall appear to such justices due, together with costs, not exceeding ten shillings; and in default of the money being paid, the payment may be enforced by distress and sale of the monies, securities, &c. belonging to the society, and in default of such distress being found, by the sale of the proper goods of the officer or officers of the said society so neglecting or refusing; provided, that whatever sums shall be paid by or levied on such officer or officers, shall be repaid by the society. The fourth class enacts, That the orders of justices shall be made on officers of societies by name, and served on them. And the fifth and last clause provides, that the adjudication or award of the justices shall be final.

THE WANDERER RESTORED.

A TALE.

IN one of the wide and newly-peopled provinces of the trans-atlantic continent, a youth of the name of Newry first saw the light, and attained that age when the passions attendant on, or rather which compose human nature, commence their operation.

His father, having engaged early in trade, and long continued in the habit of commercial speculations, not without considerable success, had gradually lost almost all relish for every thing but gain; and wished to infuse into his son the same spirit, as the only quality which could be ultimately advantageous to him. But young Newry, however congenial and favourable to the propagation of such sentiments might be the habits and dispositions of all he saw around him, imbibed very slowly such doctrines.

The blooming charms of the gentle Hannah, the amiable daughter of a neighbouring planter, had made a strong impression on his heart, which increased at every interview, 'till at length he conceived that the possession of her as his bride must be more conducive to his happiness than the possession of all the mines of the Indies, either east or west; which wild

and extravagant notion he ultimately did not hesitate to avow, even in the hearing of his father.

That prudent and grave man was struck with astonishment, and even with a kind of horror, at hearing his son give utterance to such an idea, and it appeared to him that nothing less could be the cause of it than some derangement in that noble faculty of man styled reason. For, finding his wealth rapidly increase, he had resolved to remove to one of the principal towns on the coast, where he could more conveniently still further augment his fortune, and where he had observed, and had marked out for his son, the daughter of by far the most wealthy merchant of the place, whom, in consequence of his money and connexions, he had no doubt but he should be able to obtain for him. Now to find his son treat with indifference, nay absolutely refuse to co-operate in carrying into effect such a golden plan as this, appeared to him an indubitable proof of insanity. Young Newry, however, most pertinaciously refused to surrender his hopes, sacrifice his love, and separate himself from his Hannah.

Yet this was not all the opposition which the enamoured youth had to encounter; for the father of Hannah, learning the dislike, and the nature of the objections of old Newry to the union of his daughter and her lover, found his pride much piqued; and another young man, in very excellent circumstances, and with his property in his own possession, making Miss Hannah an offer at the same time, he recommended to her, and even urged her to discard Newry, and accept the other; but to this the faithful and tender Hannah could not be brought to consent. Her father, however, revenged himself for her non-compliance with his request by forbidding Newry his house; and their interviews, consequently, became much less frequent, though they still contrived to have some, which, however, Hannah was obliged to take care should appear to be accidental.

But all these obstacles only tended to increase the ardour of young Newry's passion, so long as he thought he was convinced that his love was returned by her on whom it was bestowed with equal affection and equal fidelity. But at length, groundless jealousy, born of, and nourished by trifles light as air, invaded his breast, and all tranquillity, all hope, and fortitude forsook him. The world appeared to him as one wide wilderness, inhabited solely by animals rapacious and selfish, ever intent on making each other their prey by open violence, or insidious hypocrisy. He determined to abjure such society, and seek in solitude that repose for his indignant mind which it could not find among mankind.

Romantic as was this determination, he prepared to carry it into execution. Having provided himself with the few things

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he conceived to be necessary for the recluse life he proposed in future to lead, he became a hermit and a misanthrope. He left his home, removed far from all his relatives and friends, and wandered, heedless whither, over the extensive plains, and through the most thick and gloomy woods, subsisting on the roots and fruits which, as it was summer time, nature seemed to have provided in plenty for his entertainment. By the side of a rocky hill, down which a rivulet trickled, he found a romantic cave, in which he took up his residence, calling it his new home, and amusing himself with excavating in it different apartments, and, as it were, fitting it up for his dwelling.

For several weeks he led this extraordinary life, the sense of the supposed wrongs he had suffered animating, as it were, his fortitude to endure any privations rather than return to the society of those he deemed his ungenerous and selfish fellow-creatures.

One fine summer evening, having wandered far into a wood, indulging his resentful meditations on the crimes and follies, and multiplied errors of the imperfect creatures of this world, he sat down at the foot of a large and wide-spreading tree, and being somewhat fatigued with his long excursion, soon fell asleep. In the morning he suddenly awoke, without knowing what had disturbed him, and, opening his eyes, saw advancing to him a serpent, prepared to strike at him, the bite of which he knew to be very deadly. He had awaked but just in time to avoid the danger which threatened him. He, however, did escape it, and was fortunate enough to kill the serpent before it had done him any injury. This circumstance produced a very peculiar effect on the mind of the young wanderer, and restored him to a more just sense of the nature of the world and his duties in it. "Do I not find," said he to himself, "all creatures actuated by love of self, and careless of the evil they may cause to others? Why should I require in man a perfection of which I scarcely perceive the traces in any other animal? And while I condemn others for selfishness, am I quite certain that my chief reason for abhorring it as a vice is not because it militates against my own selfishness? To renounce society, to lead a life which, according to every thing I see around me, does not appear to have been intended for man is surely wrong. It is certainly my duty to submit to the dispositions of that providence which, when it created this system, must have been infinitely more wise than myself; and it is as certainly my duty not to fly from my fellow-creatures, because I suffer from their imperfections, but to remain with them, and endeavour, as far as lies in my power, to serve and amend them. I will return into the world; I will bear with fortitude the evils with which it, perhaps, too much abounds; I will

will be thankful for the good of which it certainly is not destitute, and I will endeavour to extend and improve it.

He returned to his native place, and related in what manner he had acted, and the reflections he had made; when to his pleasing surprise he learned that during his absence of a few weeks, the circumstances which had given him so much disgust had entirely changed. His father had suffered some losses and disappointments, which had humbled his pride of wealth; the merchant's daughter, for whom he had intended to propose his son, was married. His Hannah he had the most indubitable proof had always been faithful to him; her father was found to be in much more affluent circumstances than he had been supposed to be; and all parties now consented that he should be made happy in the way he had desired, which he soon was, and found that in this changeable world, evil no more than good can boast an unalterable permanency.

ANECDOTES *of* ARISTOMENES.

ARISTOMENES, the general of the Messenians, having three times offered sacrifices, for having slain on each occasion an hundred of his enemies, at last fell by severe wounds, and with many others, was taken. The Lacedæmonians chose to throw all into a pit; Aristomenes, on the account of his glorious bravery with his armour, the rest stripped. They being thrown together in heaps from on high, soon perished. But the shield of Aristomenes, drawing in air, gently broke his fall to the ground. Hope did not forsake him, as he cast his eyes up, and saw the rocks hanging above him; but, looking every way, he perceived a narrow passage, and foxes passing through it. Breaking off a bone from one of the dead bodies lying next to him, he seized one of the foxes by its tail, and though bitten by it, he pushed his way with it through the tract, digging and enlarging it with the help of the bone. When he had completed his escape, he proceeded to the Messenians, who were about to engage in battle. He immediately, putting on his armour, led the phalanx. The Lacedæmonians seeing again the man, whom they had cast into the pit, from whence no one had ever come out alive, again clothed with his armour, and again leading the forces and pursuing them, all took to flight; supposing him to be more than a mortal man.

N. B. The shield is said to have been embossed with the figure of an eagle, extending its wings to the utmost extremities. This gave rise to the tradition, that on Aristomenes being thrown into the pit, an eagle fled to his assistance, and bore his falling body on its expanded wings unhurt to the bottom.

On the CHARACTER *of* BISHOP ATTERBURY.

By Dr. Warton.

THE turbulent and imperious temper of this haughty prelate was long felt and remembered in the college over which he presided. It was with difficulty Queen Anne was persuaded to make him a bishop, which she did at last on the repeated importunities of Lord Harcourt, who pressed the queen to do it, because, truly, she had before disappointed him in not placing Sacheverell on the bench. After her decease Atterbury vehemently urged his friends to proclaim the pretender, and, on their refusal upbraided them for their timidity with many oaths, for he was accustomed to swear on any strong provocation. In a collection of letters published by Mr. Duncombe, it is affirmed on the authority of Elijah Fenton, that Atterbury, speaking of Pope, said there was *mens curva in corpore curvo* (a crooked mind in a crooked body), but this sentiment seems utterly inconsistent with the warm friendship supposed to subsist between these celebrated men. Dr. Herring, however, in the second volume of this collection, says—"If Atterbury was not worse used than any honest man in the world ever was, there are strange contradictions between his public and private character.

St. PAUL'S.

IT is well known that the motto *(resurgam)* underneath the phœnix, over the south portico of St. Paul's, is said to have arisen from the following circumstance:—Sir Christophet Wren, having fixed upon the spot for the centre of the great dome, desired a flat stone to be brought to him from among the rubbish, to leave there as a mark. This happened to be a grave stone, with only the word *resurgam* (I shall rise) inscribed upon it, which was considered by the architect as a most favourable omen. Now, Henry King, bishop of Chichester, who died in 1618, was buried in the choir of St. Paul's, under a plain stone, with only the memorable word *resurgam* upon it. It is not therefore probable that this was the very stone that was brought to Sir Christopher?

EPITAPHS.

IT would be an useful occupation for our poets to compose short and hitting epitaphs for the tombs of the celebrated dead.

dead. The epitaph is the most instructive part of the memorial; it wanders every where; while the monumental bust, or statue, the emblems which designate, and the relievos which record, the actions of the buried, are known only to those who go in pilgrimage to the grave.

The most natural form of epitaph seems to be an address from the manes of the deceased to the survivors. As in this inscription for the tomb of a wife who died young, and who is supposed to apostrophize her husband.

" Immatura perî; sed tu felicior, annos
Vive tuos, conjux optime, vive meos."

But the chief excellence of an epitaph consists in its being strikingly and exclusively applicable to the interred individual; nor ought it to be too long for remembrance. Such was the line proposed for Alexander's coffin,

" Sufficit huic tumulus cui non suffecerat orbis,"

and that for Franklin's bust,

" Eriquit fulmen cœlo, sceptrumque tyrannis,"

or that for an embellishing painter,

" Striving with nature, what he drew
Was fairer and more lasting too."

CHAMPION *of* ENGLAND.

THE claim of Dymocke of Scrivelby to the office of champion, though allowed at the coronation of Richard the Second, appears to have been disputed again at the coronation of Henry the Fourth, as appears from the following passage in Holinshed:—

" Thomas Dimocke, in right of his mother, Margaret Dimocke, by reason of the tenure of his manor of Scrivelbie, claimed to be the king's champion at his coronation, and had his suite granted; notwithstanding a claime exhibited by Baldwin Frevill, demanding that office by reason of his castle of Tamworth, in Warwickshire. The said Dimocke had for his fees one of the best coursers in the king's stable, with the king's saddle, and all the trappers and harnesse appertaining to the same horse or courser; he had likewise one of the best armors that was in the king's armorie for his own bodie, with all that belonged wholle thereunto."

AN ANECDOTE.

PYRRHUS, king of Epirus, at the invitation of the Argive Aristeus, attacked Argos. The Argives, taking up their arms, ran together into the market-place; but the women, going upon the roof of the houses, pelting the men of Epirus below, forced them to retreat, so that Pyrrhus, one of the bravest generals, died with a blow on his head. The women of Argos obtained the greatest glory among the Grecians, from the fall of the great warrior Pyrrhus, not by the hands of men, but of females.

ANECDOTES *of* DR. RICHARD HOLDSWORTH.

DR. HOLDSWORTH was a native of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and was successively a fellow and master of St. John's, Cambridge; which latter he soon resigned, being elected master of Emanuel. He was afterwards made a professor of Gresham-college, and succeeded to the archdeaconry of Huntingdon in 1663, upon the death of Dr. Owen Gwynn, master of St. John's. His next promotion was to the deanery of Worcester. Dr. Holdsworth was a man possessed of every virtue, and an unsullied reputation. During the rebellion, he was plundered and imprisoned for four years. Being the most celebrated preacher of his time, he was so dreaded by the parliament, that the commitee of safety declared, that if he was permitted to preach, he would undo all that they had done. He attended the king in the isle of Wight; and his majesty, when at Holmby-house, requested that Holdsworth might be permitted to come to him, but this was denied. After the execution of Charles, he lost all relish for life, and contracted a disorder from excessive grief, which soon brought him to the grave. He died in August, 1649, the king having fallen in the preceding January.

A QUESTION, *by R. Withall, of Plymouth.*

NEAR Plymouth is a right angled triangular field, the shortest side of which is 3 chains, and the other sides are in the proportion of 5 to 4. Now it is intended to enlarge it by the removal of the shortest fence, and continuing the largest side, in the same direction, 3 chains further, to build a hedge to the old fence, which will make the field larger than before. I demand the present dimensions of the field, its area when enlarged, the quantity of ground taken in, and the length of the new fence.

Answer, by J. Kerby, Helston, to R. Trewavas's Enigma, inserted August 14.

THE enigma, when with care I sought,
The MUSTARD plant to light was brought.

Answer, by W. Kent, near Camelford, to R. Trewavas's Enigma, inserted the 2d of October.

THE useful PEN is what you meant;
Pray with this answer be content.

†*† We have received the like answer from Caroline Caines, of Lion's-gate; and Charles Caines, at Cerne school.

Answer, by R. Wiball, of Plymouth, to T. Pearce's Rebus, inserted October 9.

MAY PROTESTANTS, with hearts sincere,
Their Great Creator still revere.

. Similar answers have been received from J. French, at Evershot-school; John Woodman, of North Curry; J. W. of Charmouth; W. Petherick, of St. Austell; Caroline Caines, of Lion's-gate; S. Tucker, of Bugford; T. Hawker, of Camelford; W. Kent, near Camelford; G. H. Bynon, of Plymouth-Dock; J. Hurd, of Honiton; W. B. of Taunton; G. W. Jones, and J. W. Jones, of North Petherton; J. Channon, jun. of Ottery Mary; B. Carvosso, of Cosawes, near Penryn; J. M. Carveth, near Mevagissey; a youth of Mevagissey; J. Trenchard, of St. Bude; N. Colwell, of Knackershole; and C. Crews, of Newton Abbot.

A REBUS, *by J. A. Dyer, of Taunton*

A Well-known animal pray find,
My first you then will bring to mind;
And if a number you transpose,
My next you'll certainly disclose:
These parts array'd in order true,
A well-known bird appears in view.

A REBUS, *communicated by W. B.*

LET those that would in piety excel
My first abhor, e'en as the gates of Hell;
And of my hateful next alike beware,
That in their breast it have no dwelling there;
My third's a title of that Power Divine
Who caus'd the glorious orbs above to shine;
When, at his word, my fourth from nothing came,
And order reign'd throughout the wondrous frame;
To him ascribe my last with grateful soul,
Who form'd, upholds, and still directs the whole.

The parts explor'd, and plac'd in order true,
A thing desir'd you then will have in view;
Let those that know its worth stand forth and say,
If they its value can too much display.
Replete with good, and friendly to our race,
It makes all nature wear a smiling face.

POETRY.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

SONG.

WHERE yonder willows *weeping* grow,
And in the brook their branches lave;
Where tufts of sweetest vi'lets blow,
Is lovely Emma's virgin grave.

There beauty oft, by pity led,
Shall feel her tenderest passions move,
And dew with tears the verdant bed
Of the fair maid who died for love.

JOB.

THE DEATH OF THE RIGHTEOUS.

[From the "Leisure Hour Improved."]

SWEET is the scene when virtue dies,
When sinks a righteous soul to rest;
How mildly beam the closing eyes!
How gently heaves th' expiring breast!

So fades a summer-cloud away;
So sinks the gale, when storms are o'er;
So gently shuts the eye of day;
So dies a wave along the shore.

Triumphant, smiles the victor-brow,
Fann'd by some angel's purple wing;
Oh grave! where is thy vict'ry now?
Invidious death! where is thy sting?

A holy quiet reigns around;
A calm, which nothihg can destroy;
Nought can disturb that peace profound,
Which their unfetter'd souls enjoy.

Farewell! conflicting hopes and fears,
Where lights and shades alternate dwell!
How bright the unchanging morn appears!
Farewell, inconstant world! Farewell!

Its duty done, as sinks the clay,
Light, from its load, the spirit flies;
While Heaven and earth combine to say,
"Sweet is the scene when virtue dies."

ON THE APPROACH OF WINTER.

OLD winter is come from the cold northern ocean,
With snows on his grey beard, and storms in his rear;
Around him wild howling the blast's chilling motion;
Around his ice-dwelling loud roars the white bear.

Old

Old winter is come, all so cold and so cheerless,
And what is there here can enliven the heart?
'Tis friendship and love, two gems shining and peerless,
From whom may we never have reason to part!

Yes friendship and love, whose warm rays ever
Can thaw the cold frost of the pitiless mind:
'Tis friendship and love, with affection combining,
Can chase away winter, and warm the cold wind.

JAMES JENNINGS.

ADDRESS TO THE FLYING FISH.

BY THOMAS MORE, ESQ.

WHEN I have seen thy snowy wing
O'er the blue wave at evening spring,
And give those scales of silver white
So gaily to the eye of light?
Oh! it has made me proudly feel,
How like thy wing's impatient zeal
Is the pure soul which scorns to rest
Upon the world's ignoble breast;
But takes the plume which God has giv'n,
And rises into light and Heaven!

But when I've seen that wing so bright
Grow languid with a moment's flight,
Attempt the paths of air in vain,
And sink into the seas again.
Alas! the flattering pride is o'er,
Like thee, indeed, the soul may soar,

But erring man must blush to think,
Like thee again the soul may sink.
Oh virtue! when thy clime I seek,
Let not my spirit's flight be weak,
Let me, in that aspiring day,
Cast every ling'ring thought away,
And panting for thy purer air,
Fly up at once, and fix me there.

SONNET.

SWEET 'tis to think, the spirits of the blest
May hover round the virtuous man's repose;
And oft in visions animate his breast,
And scenes of bright beatitude disclose.

The ministers of Heaven, with pure controul,
May bid his sorrows and emotions cease,
Inspire the pious fervour of his soul,
And whisper to his bosom hallow'd peace.

Ah! tender thought, that oft with sweet relief,
May charm the bosom of a weeping friend;
Beguile with magic power the tear of grief,
And pensive pleasure with devotion blend;

While oft he fancies music sweetly faint,
The airy lay of some departed saint.